



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 09, 2025 at 5:30 PM

The Tom Hardin Room – 100 Public Square, Mount Pleasant, TN

1. Call to Order

Mr. McWilliams called the meeting to order at 5:31

2. Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation

Mrs. McWilliams lead the Pledge and asked Mr. Patton to lead the invocation.

3. Roll Call

Mr. Grooms preformed roll call and members were present.

A. Parks and Recreation Commission Members

Luemma McWilliams - Chair Person

Bedford Smith - Co-Chair Person

Kathy Pepe- Secretary

Larry Patton- Member

Anna Arnold- Member

Katrina Holt- Member

Loree Knowles- City Commissioner

4. Approval / Correction of Minutes from Prior Meetings

A. Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes From 3-12-2025

Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes From 3-12-2025

Mrs. McWilliams stated that everyone was emailed a copy of the minutes from the last meeting and asked if there were any changes and if not asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes as written.

Mr. Smith stated he didn't see anything wrong with the minutes and made the motion to accept; Ms. Pepe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

5. Completion / Review of Unfinished Business from prior meeting

A. Easter Event Progress

Ms. Busby stated that they were filling eggs, about \$1450 had been donated, 2 sets of bikes had been donated and donations would cover the third along with helmets. She also stated that she was waiting on Pizza Place on their donation, chocolate bunnies. Mrs. McWilliams said that there where 100 bags for prizes worth about \$30 each to give away, and Southside Church was coming to set up with games.

Mr. Smith asked if things would be outside like last year and Ms. Busby stated that as long as weather was good everything worked better outside. The Commission discussed the event in more details.

B. CCF Grant update

Mr. Grooms stated he was pleased to announce that we had received a contract for approval. The grant is a \$2,000,000 grant with the City having to match \$200,000. The contract and the architect design, would be put in front of the Commission this month for approval.

He passed around a layout of the concept design that had been agreed upon and stated that it may change once we sign the contract and we start to price items, as budget allows.

C. Arrow Mines Bathroom update

Mr. Grooms stated he was pleased to announce that he could now retire, that we had 3 bids from companies and those bids were as follows GM Infrastructure \$35,548.10, Wayne Vandivier \$52,875.00, and KCS Building Group \$94,450. He stated that he himself and Ted Howell spoke with GM Infrastructure and would be recommending them to the Commission for approval.

Mr. Grooms and the Board discussed the bathrooms in further details.

D. Scarecrow Event update

Mr. Grooms Stated that as discussed prior at the Fireworks committee meeting, we are looking for volunteers for this board to make it a successful event.

E. Movie Night Event update

Ms. Busby stated that they would set up out in front of the center with the big screen, snacks, popcorn, and possible pizzas. Working with Tonya Burgett at United Bank. This event is set for the Friday of Memorial weekend May 23rd at dark.

F. Juneteenth Event update

Ms. Busby stated that she had put a deposit on the waterslide and gave details about the type of the slide. She also stated that they would have hot dogs cooked by the Fire Department and Mr. Smith would bring the cool pops again this year from Heritage Bank.

Ms. Busby then discussed things that she and Mr. Grooms had talked about to have other things going on in the area like a 3-point contest. Mr. Grooms stated that Ms. Busby recommended an ice cream truck and do tickets for free ice cream for the kids, Mr. Grooms also stated that Ms. Busby mentioned having Bingo for the adults in the shelter. The commission discussed talked about prizes for Bingo.

Mr. Grooms, asked for feedback on marketing and when that needed to get started. Mr. Smith mentioned more signs for the park itself, stating that most people didn't know where the park was located at. Mrs. Katrina mentioned having a petting zoo. Ms. Busby asked how we can bring Juneteenth to the event by incorporating someone to speak. Names were mentioned by several members and discussed further.

G. Back to School Bash update

Ms. Busby stated detail about the event and that it would be at the splash pad and Mrs. McWilliams stated that they had enough school supplies for 500 kids. Mr. Smith stated that the supplies we had would cover one whole school. Mrs. McWilliams stated that we would have kids from all schools and that we needed to separate supplies into bags and give the bags out to the kids with what they need. The date for the event is July the 19th.

The Commission continued to discuss the event further.

6. Special reports from other City Departments or Committees if applicable

There were no reports for this month

7. New Business

(Comments from citizens may or may not be included, dependent on the issues.)

A. Tiger Youth Baseball League.

Tiger Youth Baseball League.

Mr. Grooms stated that for years that we have an issue with the coaches background check. After discussion with Chief Hay, we have adjusted the requirements for a coach to be able to pass or fail a background check.

Chief Hay, stated that felonies range from Class A to Class E, and what they have done is break down the classifications of felonies and the way each one is looked at and handled. And that break down is as follows

Any and all Sex Offenses - Will NOT be allowed to coach

All Tennessee Code Class A Felonies - Regardless of the amount of time will not be allowed to coach.

All class B Felonies- other than Sex Offenses within the past 15 years (from the date of conviction) may coach.

All Class C,D,and E Felonies- Other than Sex Offenses within the past 10 years (from the date of conviction) may coach.

Misdemeanors

Two or more misdemeanor violence offenses with in the past 5 years will not be allowed to coach

Two or more misdemeanor drug and alcohol offenses within the past 5 years will no be allowed to coach.

Pending cases will not be allowed to coach

Probation-anyone on probation that requires completion of court ordered rehabilitation, will not be considered to volunteer until all terms have been met and proof of completion has been submitted.

Mr. Grooms, stated that there is no ordinance on this, it was just an action item that set forth 15 years ago. He would like to send this the City Commission as an resolution for a vote to have more defined rules for these coaches.

Further discussion was had on this issue.

Mrs. Knowles made a motion that we accept the new policy on the coaches back ground check. Mr. Smith seconded that motion. with the votes as follows

Mrs. McWilliams -Yes

Mr. Smith -Yes

Ms. Pepe- Yes

Mr. Patton -Yes

Mrs. Arnold -Yes

Mrs. Holt - Yes

Mrs. Knowles -Yes

Mr. Grooms stated that he would bring to the study session the next night for the Commission.

Further discussion was had.

8. General comments from citizens (May be limited in time and/or number of comments.)

Ms. Busby stated that the Mother and Son dance went well and that the pictures were back and would get sent out to school this week.

Ms. Busby stated that the fireworks meeting that was had right before this meeting, all vendors will be excepted with permits, Holy Smokes Band will play 3 sets. We will have games a dunking booth and the splash pad will be going for the kids. She also asked for volunteers for the Scarecrow board.

Mrs. McWilliams asked was there anything else and there was not, she then asked for a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Smith made that motion and Ms. Pepe seconded the motion.

9. Board / Staff Comments / Adjournment

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